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UCAPAWA News

UNITED CANNERY, AGRICULTURAL, PACKING AND ALLIED WORKERS OF AMERICA-CIO

Vol. IV, No. 7 — April 1, 1944 — 68 — Price 5 Cents

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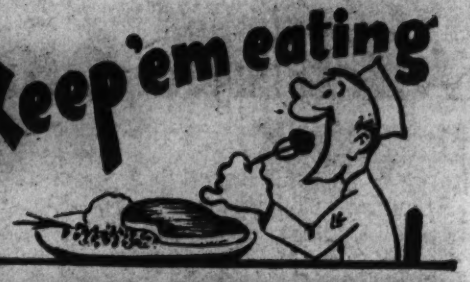


Campbell Soup Workers Hail Winning of WFA "A" Award

Camden, N.J.—Over 5,000 Campbell Soup workers and management representatives crowded into a flag-bedecked warehouse here on March 23 to receive the War Food Administration's "A" Award for outstanding achievement in food production for the Armed Services, the home front and our allies. In line with President Roosevelt's statement that "victory depends as much on our ability to produce food as on our ability to manufacture guns, planes and ships," the "A" Award honors food processors who make an exceptional contribution to food production.

Broadcast over WCAU, the ceremonies included music by a military band and formal presentation of the bright green "A" flag to fly over the plant and an "A" pin for each worker. Anthony Valentino, President of Local 80, praised the Stewards for their leadership in keeping production at a high level and pledged "to our government as well as to every man and woman in our armed forces" that Campbell Soup workers "will strive for even greater achievements on our production front until victory is ours." In last tomato season, some 12,000 workers pitched in to handle the crop, with hours running as high as 70 and 80 per week.

Other speakers were George E. Brunner, Mayor of Camden; Brigadier General Carl A. Hardigg, Chief of Subsistence, Office of the Quartermaster General; Arthur C. Dorrance, Pres. of Campbell Soup Co.; and E. A. Meyer of the War Food Administration.

Members of the Committee who received the pins on behalf of the workers were Benjamin Butler, Howard Hilyard, Ethel Jackson, John Juditz, Sylvia Neff and Valentino, all of Local 80; Joseph Curry representing the foremen; and A. Lynnwood Haller of the office force. Lieutenant John A. McGlinn, a survivor of the "Hornet" and a former Campbell employee, presented the pins.

FOOD FOR INVASION

Brig. Gen. Hardigg disclosed the immense job of feeding the Army, pointing out that this task becomes even greater as more troops go overseas for the invasion. Each man needs five pounds of food a day, which means a total of 40 million pounds daily, said speaker. For overseas shipment, a high proportion of canned food [illegible] many men to be overseas at the end of this year as were in 1943, food workers face a heavy responsibility in 1944.

Campbell's makes Ration C, tomato juice and canned soups.

(Pictures and Valentino speech on page 5.)

California Shed Workers Are Registering To Vote

In Salinas Valley

Salinas, Calif. —With Local 78 deputy registrars covering the winter vegetable sheds in this area, the workers here are fast becoming not only 100% organized, but also 100% registered to vote. In the picture above, workers on the Lewis Tervins carrot packing house are registering during their lunch hour. They are (l. to r.): Deputy Registrar Eula Whitney; assistant Shop Steward L. A. Shelly; Mabel Gibson; Viola Fern Jarvis; Deputy Registrar Loretta Taylor; and foreman Ray Hill.

"We are putting on a very effective registration drive," says Ethel Alcorn, Local 78 Secy. "We have found only about 25% of the workers were registered, but they were willing and anxious to become voters when we contacted them."

The bulk of the Local 78 members, who will arrive in this area around April 15 for the beginning of the 8-month lettuce deal, will be organized for a real showing of labor in the general election.

Imperial Valley, Calif. —Determined to elect progressive representatives and to defeat anti-labor laws in the State, Local 78 members in Southern California are marching into the Union hall to vote.

In the picture at the right, taken at Brawley, are (sitting, l. to r.): Gladys Davis; Registrar Joe Parks; Registrar Archie Trottier; and Pauline Orlando. (Standing, l. to r.): Christ Gustell; U. A. Watson; Floyd Loveland; Robert Thomas; Mark Forney; H. A. Miller; and Herb Allen.

Brothers Parks and Trottier are keeping the Union Hall open evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Brawley, and they have posted all the sheds with bulletins, urging the workers to register to vote. Similar action is being taken in the other centers of the Imperial Valley where approximately 40 vegetable sheds are in operation, involving some 2,000 workers.

The union leaders who volunteered to become Deputy Registrars received training for this duty. For each voter registered they get 10c which is turned over to the State Political Action fund.

When asked why she dropped in to register, Gladys Davis, grapefruit packer, replied: "I got my dander up over the political trend, and I'm taking democracy seriously."

In Imperial Valley

Big News in UCAPAWA:

American Tobacco Goes CIO **8**
Every Worker a Voter **7**
Cotton Seed Oil and Compress Division 3
Fruit and Vegetable Division 3, 5
Grain Processing Division 4
Tobacco Division 6, 8

See Page 7, too

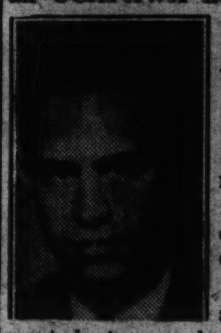
Watch The Other End, Bud!

Forward March!

By- HAROLD J. LANE, Secretary-Treasurer

SUPPORT YOUR CITY INDUSTRIAL UNION COUNCIL

THERE is a CIO City Industrial Union Council in practically every major city of the United States. I am very glad to say that all UCAPAWA Locals are affiliated to their CIO City Industrial Union Councils and have been instrumental, in many instances, in assisting in organizing the Council itself.



The cost of affiliation, in most instances, is $2.00, and the monthly per capita is usually based on 5c per month per member.

It is a very small amount of money when considered in light of the various activities which local Industrial Union Councils carry on. Among the more important functions performed by the Councils are to direct the resources of the Councils in an advisory, consulting, organizational and servicing capacity to all affiliates.

They must at all times coordinate the activities of all affiliates in order to protect, maintain and advance the interests of all the working people in their territory; extend trade unionism on the basis of industrial organization; secure and enforce legislation in the interest of the working people and for the social advancement and security of all people.

They must always be alert to fight anti-labor forces in the community and must constantly strive to secure community support for organized labor and its program.

Political Activity

It is on the political field that local CIO Industrial Union Councils can land their greatest weight and strength. The Councils are constantly in contact with public officials in their community and are fully familiar with the record of each elected official.

It is the Council's job to assist its affiliates in mobilizing their rank and file members on registration drives and voting campaigns.

This is especially of vital importance in the coming elections in 1944 when the whole future of the labor movement will be at stake, and the gains made in the past would be placed in jeopardy if the anti-Administration, anti-labor forces were successful.

Watch Labor Laws

Another important function performed by the Councils is that of examining all bills which affect labor and carrying on active campaigns in support of bills favorable to labor. In many instances it is necessary that Councils send delegations to lobby for the passage of bills in the State Legislatures such as Little Wagner Acts; such as State wage and hour laws; improvement in unemployment compensation laws — all of which have a direct bearing on each and every one of our members.

Local Unions in order to participate properly are called upon at various times to provide delegates to assist in carrying on this activity and it is necessary that Local Unions have funds in their treasuries to provide for this work.

Local Unions can no longer sit back and think that someone else is going to do the job for them. We must realize that we are in a knock-down, drag-out fight where it is pretty much every man for himself and labor must look to one another for support and strength.

Provide for Funds

It is up to Local Unions to provide funds for all of the various activities covered in this and in preceding columns. Neglecting to do so means you are relying on a "fair-weather" friend to take care of your Local and its membership.

We certainly all realize that this job can be done best when we ourselves do it and in very many instances Locals which have been farsighted, and have faced the facts and their responsibilities to themselves and their membership, have increased their dues in order to properly participate in all of the necessary activities.

In the vast majority of instances dues have been increased to $1.50 per month. Every day more and more locals are reaching the point where they are making up their minds that the amount of dues charged per member must be based on "WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO PROPERLY DO OUR JOB" and not on some amount that was arbitrarily decided upon on the spur of the moment back in 1937.

Home Front Glances

By Federated Press

In Los Angeles they call Vice-Pres. Ben Rothman of Newsboys Industrial Union (CIO) a 1-man home front mobilization. Ben is 18 and physically handicapped, but to date he has:

Sold more than $250,000 in bonds and stamps;

Donated blood to the Red Cross 10 times;

Get people to fill 200 war relief kits;

Collects an hour's pay a month from other newsboys for Allied War Relief.

Incidentally, Ben is chairman of Local 75's war activities committee—or did you guess it already?

* * *

Bing Crosby won more friends with his broadcast opening: "This is the Kraft music hall, bound out for every quarter of the globe where American citizens are fighting for our right to vote. Certainly seems the least we can do is protect theirs."

GUIDE

TO POLITICAL ACTION

By ELIZABETH SASULY
Legislative Director

STOP THE WAGE FREEZE

JUST as labor is getting wise to the fact that wage issues are political issues which must be explained to the average citizen and average Congressman, the anti-labor and anti-Administration forces in Congress are getting a move under way to hamstring an adjustment of the national wage policy by legislative action.

The Economic Stabilization Act is now up for re-enactment and hearings are being held by the Senate Banking and Currency Committee. This Act gives OPA authority for holding prices down and also states that wages and prices must be stabilized as of September 15, 1942. Since prices were not held or rolled back to where they were on that date, the CIO Steelworkers union has placed the case of the workers before the War Labor Board and is asking that wage increases be allowed to cover price increases. This is simple arithmetic and simple justice. The Little Steel formula allows a 15% increase in wage rates over January 1941. Labor's cost of living survey showed a 43.5% increase in prices. The necessary adjustment can be made under the Economic Stabilization Act as it now stands.

Want to Freeze Wages

But that is just exactly what the sabotage bloc in Congress doesn't want. They want to tie the hands of the War Labor Board so that wage policy can't be changed, no matter how good a case the Steelworkers make out for such changes. Therefore they are trying to write the 15% Little Steel Formula into the Economic stabilization act, *freezing your wages for good.*

Playing Politics

They aren't doing this just for fun or just to hold wages down. They are playing politics for 1944. They hope to make the wage freeze stick and then tell the workers that it is the President's fault wages can't be raised. In the same way Congress sabotaged the President's stabilization program for price and profit control and decent tax legislation and then turned around and blamed the Administration.

While the forces of dis-unity take up the attack on wages in the stabilization act, they are not forgetting their campaign to throw out all price control. They still hope to put through an amendment forbidding subsidies.

Pressure—Now

The answer to this campaign is immediate pressure on your Congressman and Senators. There is no time to be lost and we have an unexpected opportunity to put this heat on where it hurts most—*at home.* Congress is taking a Recess from March 30th to April 15th. No matter how bad your Congressman is, he will be particularly sensitive to pressure because 1944 is election year.

See Your Congressman

Your local should make plans immediately to see your Congressman and Senators when they get home. Invite your Congressman to your union meeting, have your Political Action committee call on him and tell him what the people who are registering to vote want.

Point number one in your discussion should be the wage issue. Tell him labor wants no wage freezing or other hamstringing amendments to the Economic Stabilization Act. Make this point stick. It means your bread and butter.

And when you have finished this point on the agenda, go on to the other important issues. See "Turn the Heat on Congress" for a summary of these issues.

Turn The Heat On Congress

GI Bill (S 1767)

This bill to aid demobilized veterans has been passed by the Senate and is coming up in the House.

ACTION: Tell your Congressman to support it.

Poll Tax Repeal (HR 7)

Makes it possible for 10 million American citizens to register and vote in 1944 and after. The Senate is stalling on bringing up this bill.

ACTION: Make sure to get after your Senators during the recess. We are nearing the final round in the poll tax fight. Get a commitment from your Senators to vote for cloture (limit on debate to stop filibuster) and against amendments.

School Lunches (S 1721)

Appropriates $80,000,000 for lunches for school children. Helps war workers to stay on the job.

ACTION: Tell your Senators to support this bill.

Economic Stabilization Act

(See *Guide to Political Action.*)

UCAPAWA News

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Vol. IV, No. 7 April 1, 1944

Field Workers

Local 7 Farm Case To Be Heard

Stockton, Calif. — Asparagus workers in the San Joaquin Valley who got a raw deal on their wage scale from the War Food Administration wage board, staged their first come-back when a rehearing was ordered on the case. Local 7 is carrying the fight through the WFA wage board to improve wages for almost 5,000 San Joaquin Valley farm workers.

On Jan. 8, the WFA's State wage board held a hearing on wages for the asparagus workers and set a ceiling lower than last year's prevailing scale, ignoring Local 7's request for a raise over the 1943 rates.

Pressure by the International office and the California CIO Council, which asked affiliated councils and locals to protest the wage cut, brought notification from WFA's Acting Director of Labor W. R. Buie that a rehearing would be held.

Local 7 will repeat its demands for higher pay and labor representation on the WFA wage board.

All-Negro Jury Wins Case for 349

By Zella Whitfield, Press Agent

Harviell, Mo. — Local 349 had occasion to make Poplar Bluff stand up and take notice, when on Feb. 14 we were called to court to appear against an offender of this camp, in the person of Steve Miller, a former member of the Local.

This was an all-Negro trial, so Local 349 demanded an all-Negro jury and got it. This was the first time in history that Poplar Bluff has allowed an all-Negro jury, and the case was won in favor of Local 349.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE DIVISION

Local 35 Wins Elections In Three Packing Houses

Mercedes, Tex.—In spite of the huffing and puffing of the growers' and shippers' organizations, substantial majorities of the workers in 3 packing houses voted CIO in NLRB elections held here on March 23, according to Int. Vice-Pres. Otis Nation. Local 35's score was 17 to nothing at Logan and Paxton; 28 to 5 at James McCarrick; and 24 to 6 at C. B. Williams.

Another Union victory was chalked up at the Winn-Beckwith plant, where an NLRB hearing resulted in the re-hiring of 14 workers, whom, Local 35 contended, the Company had fired for Union activity. All 14 were paid for lost time.

The election victories scored a sharp blow at the anti-union tactics of the shippers in the valley. Claiming that the entire industry —105 plants—were the appropriate bargaining unit, the Texas Citrus & Vegetable Growers & Shippers Assn. demanded that Local 35 must win an election in all plants at once. The NLRB upheld the Union's right to bargain for each shed individually.

NLRB SLAPS SHIPPERS

In the order directing an election, the Board said: "We see no reason to withhold from employees at individual plants the benefits of collective bargaining under the Act, simply because the entire Industry has not been unionized." The Board also threw out the Association's second claim that elections should not be held because the workers were agricultural workers, and therefore not covered by the National Labor Relations Act.

The American Farm Bureau Federation, which represents the valley farmers in name only, joined the shipping interests in their attempt to stymie the UCAPAWA organizing drive. Through full page advertisements in the local newspaper, the Federation urged farmers to rally to the City Hall on March 23 in protest to the NLRB elections.

TO FIGHT FEDERATION

—Charging violation of the Wagner Act, Nation announced he would file charges against the Cameron, Willacy and Hidalgo county Federations. "We consider officials of the Farm Bureau Federations of these three counties not spokesmen for real farmers," Nation said, "but for their semi-fascist organizations which are being used to help shippers."

The Union is continuing the battle for further elections in the Burkhart Fruit and Vegetable Co. and in the Edinburg Citrus Assn. The NLRB is expected to determine shortly when and where these elections will be held.

COTTON SEED OIL AND COMPRESS DIVISION

Secure Gains in New Cotton Agreements

Houston, Texas—With the signing of the 1944 contracts at three big cotton compresses here, Local 75 also is making plans for extending organization into other plants, and strengthening the Local through increase of dues to $1.50 a month.

The contracts negotiated by a Committee of 25 with the Gulf Atlantic Warehouse (Fifth Ward plant), Terminal Warehouse and Gulf Atlantic Warehouse (Clinton plant), call for Union shop; check-off; 40 hour week; time and one-half for sixth day of work and double time for seventh consecutive day; six holidays; three hours' pay when called to work and no work available; no strikes or lock-outs; and free ice water and many other provisions that are desired by thousands of workers throughout the South.

WAGES IN DISPUTE

Wages will be submitted to the Regional War Labor Board, disputes division. At present, the workers receive the highest rates set for this type of work in this area.

The contracts, to run for two years, were signed for the Local by Rudy Williams, Local 75 President, and Aurelio Medina, the Secy-Treas., together with the President of each plant unit. Attorney Herman Wright and Int. Vice-Pres. Otis G. Nation assisted in the negotiations.

TO BUILD LOCAL

Explaining the plans to extend the Local which the Committee began making following signing of the contracts, Bro. Williams said in connection with the proposed dues' increase from $1 to $1.50 a month: "We are now making about two times what we were when we joined the CIO. At that time the Local could function on these low dues. But we recognize that the cost of organizing has gone up along with everything else. I am sure the boys will go along with this."

NLRB Orders Reinstatement Of 8 Workers

Arbyrd, Mo.—Eight employees who had been laid off by Arbyrd Compress here won back pay of $1,000 each as a result of a case brought to the National Labor Relations Board by Local 216. All those who wanted to be reinstated got their jobs back, according to F. E. Young, Secy.-Treas. of the Local.

The Local, jubilant over the victory, immediately launched a drive for 100% UCAPAWA-CIO membership. The importance of this Union victory is described by Bro. Young as follows:

A BIG BLUFF

"This is the first time in the history of this Company that they have loosened their bosslam. They have controlled this territory for years, with everybody afraid to buck against them until the CIO Union came along.

"The Company tried to run a big bluff on us boys. The longer the hearing lasted, the more evidence, hot evidence, the boys put out. So it just got so hot that they were glad to come to our figures."

BOARD'S ORDER

The Board ordered the Company to cease and desist from "urging, warning and threatening employees against joining UCAPAWA-CIO; from questioning employees in the exercise of their rights to join or assist the Union; from making derogatory statements concerning the Union, and threatening the leadership of, or persons acting in behalf of the Union with physical violence; from discharging, laying-off, refusing to reinstate or discriminating in regard to hire or tenure of employment in order to discourage in the Union; or from in any other manner interfering with, restraining, or coercing employees in their self-organizational rights; offer back pay to 8 employees and immediate reinstatement to 3 of them; and post compliance notices for 60 days."

ELECTION VICTORIES

Recent UCAPAWA successes in NLRB elections include:

Land O'Lakes Creameries, Rush City, Minn., Local 49. The vote was 13 for UCAPAWA, 5 for no union.

St. Johns Cemetery, New York City, Local 293. The vote was 63 for UCAPAWA, 43 for no union.

See top story on page for UCAPAWA scores in packing sheds in Mercedes, Tex., Local 35 (James C. McCarrick; Logan and Paxton; and C. B. Williams).

Top Bond Quota

58 Detroit, Mich. — Gielow's division of amalgamated Local 58 here went over the top again in bond buying, exceeding the quota in the Fourth War Bond Drive by $2,400. In our previous bond drives, Ann Demek, Local 58 Fin. Secy., had been chief bond seller.

This time we thought we would initiate new members Carmen Medina and Johanna Bindus by having them sell bonds. They did very well. Ralph Graham sold bonds in the Preserve Dept. and the writer had a hand in helping the drive along.

Frank Plewa, a Steward on the Executive Shop Committee, has gone to work for Uncle Sam.

By Mildred Glenn, Press Agent

Red Cross on the Sheds

78 Early returns from the Red Cross Drive in Local 78 show the members have contributed on six sheds as follows: Ritz in Holtville—$142.50; Bright in El Centro—$118.00; Wahl in El Centro—$56.00; Arena in Yuma—$140.00; Russo in Brawley—$75.00; and Tracy in Yuma—$140.00.

Local Leaders

2 Fullerton, Calif.—Officers for 1944 of Local 2 at Hunt Bros. here are: Robert G. Harrington, Pres.; James Carol Bennett, Vice-Pres.; Clarence Kinney, Secy.-Treas.; Jesse Scribner, Rec.-Secy.; Bert Carson, Sgt.-at-Arms; Robert Cason, Lucius Raymond and Andy Boatwright, Trustees.

Members-at-large of the Executive Board are: W. Andy Fritts, George Thern, Garland Kirk, Jason Bell and Paul Dilbeck.

9 Perrine, Fla.—On the new Executive Board of Local 9, elected by secret ballot on Feb. 28, are: Hill Hoard, Pres.; Alex Verble, Woodrow Forrest, Homer Green, A. H. Jackson, A. Rudolph, Ellen Keen and Ethel Paul, Vice-Presidents; Merle Arnold, Rec.-Secy.; George Alderman, Fin. Secy.; Nell Lackey, Thelma Niles and Alice Wall, Trustees; Joe Wyatt, Sgt.-at-Arms; and Red Johnson, Conductor.

13 Chicago, Ill.—Following the resignation of Virgil Robinson as Pres. of College Inn Local 13 here, Helen Kubina was elected to head the Local. Casiminica Ruthowski is the new Recording Secretary.

68 Saginaw, Mich.—New officers of Dailey Pickle Local 68 here are: Florence Portice, Pres.; Lillian Cybrowski, Vice-Pres.; Ella Wolzein, Rec. Secy.; Sara Wolverton, Fin. Secy.; Florence Portice, Press Agent. Committee Members are: Frank Nickolis, Chairman; Elizabeth Meir, Hallen Wolverton, Florence Portice and Joseph Cassasa.

Doings in Memphis

19 Memphis, Tenn. — Taking its first step in the political field, amalgamated Local 19 is carrying on a campaign to have every member register to vote and to pay his poll tax.

Working closely with the Industrial Union Council's Political Action Committee, Local 19 is making cards for each member, giving all the information relative to the registration campaign.

Saturday, March 25, marked the opening of the first CIO Servicemen's Canteen in the South. Local 19 furnished a piano and was one of the first to help finance this Memphis canteen.

The L. P. Cook Committee was successful in getting a 5c raise approved. The Committee at Gulf Atlanta negotiated a 5c wage raise.

Local 19 is proud of launching a bond-buying campaign, leading off with a $1000.00 bond and a pledge of a $100 bond a month. Happy Mills, our baby shop in Local 19, led off on the Red Cross drive with $800. Russian War Relief is also coming in for a good share of the Local's contributions.

By Mildred Cunningham, Fin. Secy.

P. & F. Committees

91 New Orleans, La.—The new Penick and Ford unit of Local 91 elected its Political Action Committee on March 7. Members of the Committee are: Johnnie Koch, Willie Iler, Robert Blanchard, Agatha Robertson and Elsie Mae Sprouse. The Cost of Living Committee is composed of Lucile Robertson, Moyse H. Jones and Ward Dubrieul.

Lose Leader

189 Leland, Miss.—Cotton Seed Oil Local 189 here is mourning the loss of Willie Roberson, their Financial Secretary, who died on March 23.

GRAIN PROCESSING DIVISION

Win 1st Contract At Happy Mills

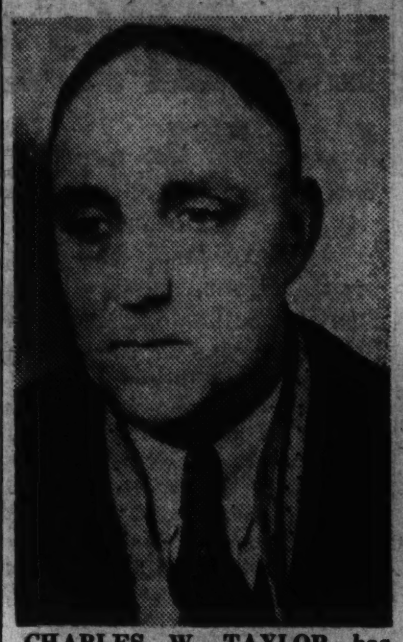
Memphis, Tenn.—Happy Mills feed workers, members of the newest division of Local 19 here, are at last working under CIO contract, according to Fin. Secy. Jessie Harrison, who reports that when they finally "got the big boss leaning," he put his name on the line under these provisions: "a pretty good wage increase; paid vacations from one to three weeks; seniority rights; better working conditions; time-and-one-half pay for five holidays worked; job security; and other things which we never had before."

PROUD OF CIO

"So you can see how proud we are of our Local 19 down here in Memphis," remarks Bro. Harrison.

Successful organizing activity, which first started some three years ago, resulted in an NLRB election victory for the Local in January of this year, by a vote of 79 to one.

Quaker Bus. Agent



CHARLES W. TAYLOR has been elected by Quaker Oats Local 110 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as their first full-time Business Agent, following action of the Local in raising dues to $1.50 per month in order to make possible this forward step. Bro. Taylor, who comes from the packing floor of the flour mill and has worked 21 years at the plant, takes office as Business Agent on April 1.

DRIED FRUIT AND NUT DIVISION

Planters Gains 10% Pay Boost

By A. J. Marcus, Int. Rep.

Suffolk, Va.—Eleven months of negotiation, conciliation and War Labor Board procedure between Local 26 and Planters Nut and Chocolate Co. here, which employs some 3,300 workers, resulted early in March in the conclusion of an agreement providing for check-off, maintenance of membership, vacations with pay, holidays with pay when worked, a departmental seniority system, with preferred seniority for Stewards and Committeemen, and a wage raise of 10 percent.

GAIN $800,000 YEARLY

Total money gains will net the workers $800,000.00 a year — $300,000.00 in outright wage increases, $50,000.00 in vacation money and the balance in overtime pay. With the plant on a 24 hour schedule, six days a week, there is plenty of opportunity for overtime work for those who want it. Some of the workers are putting in as much as 50 to 60 hours practically every week.

Members of the Negotiating Committee were: Robbie Mae Riddick, Local 26 Pres.; Leroy Harris, Vice-Pres.; Amanda Jackson, Shop Chairlady; and Clemer Mitchell and Isaac Baker, Stewards. Int. Rep. A. J. Marcus assisted in negotiating the contract. Commissioner J. Newton Maxey assisted in closing the contract.

FULL GRIEVANCE RIGHTS

An important point in grievance settlement has been finally straightened out. In previous contracts there was a provision that "the Grievance Committee . . . shall have no jurisdiction over wages and hours." This meant that the Grievance Committee could not, on a strict interpretation of this clause, intervene in any matter involving pay or hours under the contract.

This clause was changed in the new contract. The Grievance Committee now has full power to handle all grievances.

Notes from LOCALS

Acme-Evans Vote Due

84 **Indianapolis, Ind.** — An NLRB election is expected to be ordered in the near future to determine the collective bargaining agency of the employees of the Acme-Evans Milling Co. here, makers of the famous E-Z bake flour and producers of 140 lb. bags of flour which are being sent to Russia under lend-lease. About 265 workers will be eligible to vote.

The Company, long notorious for its anti-organized labor policy, is finally to a point where it will have to recognize collective bargaining. The workers, members of Local 84, have, through the antagonistic efforts of the Company, been deprived of their constitutional rights for three years, due to court appeals by the Company and interference of an AFL union which does not have a member among the production employees.

Due credit must be given to the officers and membership of Local 84, headed by Pres. Walter Hill, whose patience and belief in UCAPAWA had not only remained unshattered, but has increased day by day. When the election is held, Local 84 expects a 100% victory.

By Bob Clark, Int. Vice-Pres.

Turkey Supper

101 **York, Pa.**—We had a good time at our annual turkey supper of Local 101 at Eshelman's Feed here. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Lincoln Fire Co. of Thomasville served the banquet. Children from the Orphans' Home were among those who entertained. Since the Local Pres. was sick, the Vice-Pres. gave the speech.

By Oscar Smith, Press Agent

N.J.-Pa. Starts Vote Campaign

Hightstown, N.J.—A program of political activity and continued organizational efforts was mapped out at the meeting of the South Jersey and Eastern Pa. Organizing Committee here on March 26, according to Int. Rep. Paul Gardner.

Recommendations were made to each Local immediately to establish a Political Action Committee, to send a post card to every member to register to vote, and to ask Legislative Rep. Elizabeth Sasuly to supply voting records of Senators and Congressmen to supply to the members.

PAID LUNCH HOUR

Outstanding report of recent Local gains came from Local 95 of the grain cooperative in Hightstown where they have ten days' sick leave each year; pay for lunch hour at the rate of time and one-half and those who take only half an hour, still get the time and one-half for the whole hour; and a hospitalization and medical plan for which the Company pays half the cost. Shop Chairman Harry Shapiro and the Labor-Management Committee negotiated these gains.

The Organizing Committee welcomed the American Tobacco workers of Philadelphia into UCAPAWA (see page 8, col. 3).

The meeting attended by some 23 delegates from five Locals, was chaired by Carmen Parente, Bus. Agent of Local 186.

Join the March to the Polls!

IN ORDER to vote in the primaries, which are as important this year as the November general elections, you must not fail to register. UCAPAWA News continues the list of States where primaries will be held soon. For information on where to register, call your city hall or ask some public official. If your State has not yet been printed in the News, watch for it in forthcoming issues.

Arkansas

The Arkansas primary is on July 25.

You must have lived one year in the State and 6 months in the Congressional District to be eligible to vote. The poll tax is $1 a year, not cumulative.

No registration is required.

Iowa

The Iowa primary is on June 5.

You must have lived 6 months in the State and 60 days in the county to be eligible to vote.

Register in person at your precinct voting place, beginning on the second Thursday before election, for three consecutive days; on the last Saturay before election, and on election day (only if you are absent from the city on the above registration dates, or receive citizenship papers after the last registration day, or if your name is stricken from the registration lists on the Saturday before election).

Michigan

The Michigan primary is on July 11.

You must have lived six months in the State and 20 days in the city or town to be eligible to vote.

Register in person with the clerk of your home city or town, any time up to 20 days before election. You may also register on election day, if you can state under oath that you were unable to register within the last two days of the registration period because of illness or absence on business. Registration is permanent unless you do not vote within two years.

Mississippi

The Mississippi primary is on July 11.

You must have lived 1 year in the State and 6 months in the county to be eligible to vote. The poll tax is $2 a year, cumulative for two years.

Register in person any time up to 6 months before election (if you were too late to register for the primary, make sure to register in time for the November election), with the clerk of the circuit court of your home county.

Texas

The Texas primary is on July 22. (This may be changed.)

You must have lived one year in the State, 6 months in the county and precinct. The poll tax is $1.75. If you did not pay your poll tax by Jan. 31, 1944, you will not be eligible to vote in 1944.

No registration is required.

West Virginia

The West Virginia primary is on May 9.

You must have lived 1 year in the State and 60 days in the county to be eligible to vote.

Register in person at any time up to 30 days before election. Registration is permanent unless you do not vote at least once in a period of five years.

Wisconsin

The Wisconsin primaries are on April 4 and August 15.

You must have lived 1 year in the State and 10 days in the election district or precinct to be eligible to vote.

Register in person with the clerk of your home city or town, any time up to 10 days before election. You may register after the close of the registration period by affidavit supported by the affidavits of two other electors. In some towns having a population under 5,000, registration may not be required. Registration is permanent unless you do not vote within a two-year period, except in Milwaukee County.

APRIL PRIMARIES

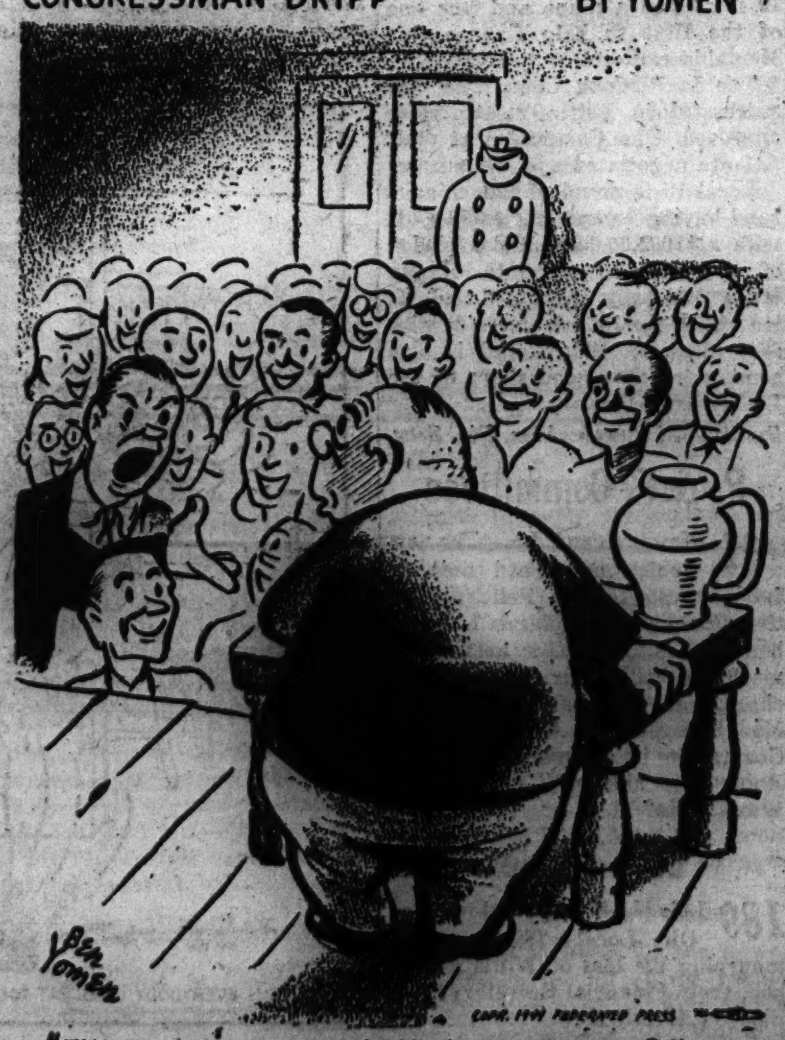
Primary elections to choose candidates for office in the November election will be held in the following States during the month of April:

Illinois: April 11.

Pennsylvania: April 25.

Wisconsin: April 4 (also August 16).

USE YOUR VOTE!



Indiana CIO Hints Plot To Stymie Voting

Gary, Ind. (FP)—"Is there a conspiracy to keep people from voting in the coming elections?" The question was raised after 500 delegates to the statewide CIO Political Action Conference here listened to a report of a special committee on registration problems.

"County clerks whose responsibility it is to register voters for the coming elections seem reluctant to do so," the committee informed the meeting.

"There is apparently an organized effort to keep the people of Indiana from registering so that they may be kept from voting," it said. "With the exception of Elkhart county, there has been put into effect no systematic program for registration in Indiana by any county clerk."

Sec. Walter Frisbie of the State CIO urged appointment of sufficient registration officers to cover every heavily populated precinct in all industrial districts.

UCAPAWA TO ACT

Indianapolis, Ind.—Following the Indiana Political Action Conference, Int. Vice-Pres. Robert Clark announced plans to involve all Indiana UCAPAWA Locals in the program. Clark is a member of the Steering Committee of the Political Action Committee.

Job of the Indiana Locals will be to see to it that every member is registered to vote and to aid in financing the political action work. Money will be raised through Local Union contributions, $1.50 memberships in PAC, sale of 50c PAC buttons and 1c per month per capita levy.

Southern Meeting

Philadelphia, Pa.—Locals in nine Southern States have been called by the International office to send delegates to the UCAPAWA Southern Conference on April 15 and 16 in Atlanta, Ga. The States included are: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee and Mississippi.

"A" IS FOR ACHIEVEMENT

Camden, N. J.—More than 5,000 Campbell Soup workers and management representatives attended the colorful presentation ceremonies of the War Food Administration "A". Award to the Camden plant on March 23. Speaking for the workers, Anthony Valentino, Pres. Local 80, pledged even greater efforts to back the invasion with food production "until victory is ours." Picture (left to right): Brigadier General Carl A. Hardigg, who presented the flag; Camden Mayor George E. Brunner; Valentino, who accepted the award pins in behalf of the workers; and Campbell Soup Pres. Arthur G. Dorrance. (See bottom of page for Valentino's speech.)

Camden, N. J.—Some of the proud Local 80 members who watched the Campbell's "A" Award ceremonies are (left to right): John Vittarelli; John Caccamo (in front); Vincent Nicolo; Lena Locatore; and George L. Hampton. The pretty usherette is Steward Eileen Pucci of the press room, can division. (See Page 1 for full story of award presentation.)

BLOOD DONOR

Isabel Delgado de Osuna, active member of cannery Local 2 in Fullerton, Calif., has recently given her fifth blood donation to the Red Cross. She proudly wears a silver pin on a bright blue ribbon.

"We Will Strive For Even Greater Achievement..."

Camden, N. J.—The following address was delivered by Anthony Valentino, Pres. Local 80, at the "A" Award ceremonies at the Campbell Soup plant on March 23:

Mr. Meyer, on behalf of the workers of the Campbell Soup Company, I thank you, and am proud to accept this Agricultural "A" Award from the War Food Administration. Every man and woman in this Company will take special pride in wearing this emblem, since we realize that a great honor has been bestowed upon us.

Our efforts in the past tomato packing season were spurred on by the knowledge that a large percentage of our products were to go directly to our Armed Forces, and although faced with critical manpower conditions, we are gratified to know we have helped to process one of the largest tomato crops in a great many years.

I am especially proud of the members of Local 80, the Union representing the workers in this plant, for their part in this achievement. The Union officers and Shop Stewards were always on the alert to prevent any interruption in the flow of production and were constantly reminding every employee of the vast part these products have in our war program, leading them on to greater efforts in producing these foods for victory.

Since we know that food is one of the most essential weapons of war, we pledge our government, as well as every man and woman in our Armed Forces that from this day on we will strive for even greater achievements on our production front until victory is ours.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE DIVISION

Local 78 Secures Check-Off Contract In Imperial Valley

By Chuck Feller, International Representative

Holtville, Calif.—History was made in the Imperial Valley when the check-off was included in the first of more than 200 agreements to be negotiated between Local 78 and the Grower-Shippers in 1944. The new contract, signed by Int. Rep. Chuck Feller, Vice-Pres. Local 78, and K. K. Sharp, biggest carrot Grower and Shipper in the State, also features incentive pay, a strong Union security clause and preferential hiring.

The employer, who is not a member of any of the anti-labor Grower-Shipper associations, agreed to deduct initiation fees and dues from paychecks of all Union members, and to deduct an equal sum as a service charge from any non-union worker, so that all will pay equally for the benefits won by Local 78.

PREFERENTIAL HIRING

It is not likely, however, that there will be many, if any, non-union workers on the Sharp Shed, for the contract also provides for preferential hiring and seniority for the Union members and maintenance of membership.

The agreement further calls for a streamlined grievance machinery, with a three-man committee on the Shed adjusting grievances and serving on a labor-management committee.

Under the incentive plan, which takes the place of last year's objectionable bonus scheme, many workers will receive important wage increases, while production will also be increased. Other adjustments were made in various classifications.

Feller hailed the contract as a wedge in the solid front the Grower-Shippers have made against the check-off and other demands of Local 78. In signing the agreement, Sharp showed a willingness to cooperate to win the battle for food, Feller added, saying that he hoped other Grower-Shippers would follow his lead.

Housing Improving For Shed Workers

Salinas, Calif.—Better news for shed workers' housing situation for the coming deal is announced by West Coast Reg. Dir. Dixie Tiller. Housing has been obtained in the Salt River Valley district; and in the Salinas district Local 78, the Shippers and the local Chamber of Commerce are all working together to secure adequate housing.

Since the National Housing Administration moves so slowly, however, it is unlikely that sufficient housing will be obtained for the start of the season, April 15.

Shed Demands Will Go To WLB For Settlement

By Dixie Tiller, Int. Vice-Pres.

Salinas, Calif. — Negotiations carried on since last December, involving Local 78 and the grower-shippers in Arizona and the Salinas-Watsonville-Hollister area in California, resulted in the U. S. Conciliation Service recommending certification to the War Labor Board.

Due to the nature of the industry, the present form of maintenance of membership was found to be impractical despite all the efforts of the Union to make it work during the past year. Union security, therefore, is one of the main points to be decided; with the Union demanding a union shop and irrevocable, compulsory check-off.

UNION'S DEMANDS

The other main points in dispute are: preferential hiring for Union members; seniority that will mean something; a work day of 8 hours between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., instead of between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.; four hours between meal periods instead of five; a guarantee of 40 hours work per week during any "deal"; minimum guarantee of hourly rate every hour when on piece work; revision of the piecework scale to provide a "Better Pack for Better Pay"; and a provision for re-opening wage negotiations when the Little Steel formula is cracked.

In addition to the above, there still remain several points at issue, left hanging in mid-air by the WLB decision of March 31, 1943, such as: uniformity of pay for all classifications; certain increases when more than the regular crew is employed; etc.

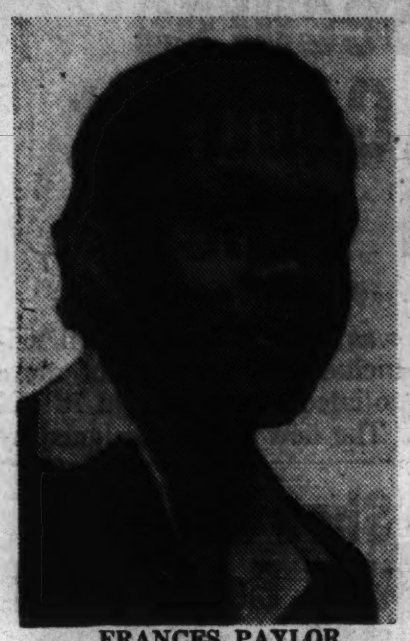
NEED INDUSTRY PANEL

Since May 31, 1943, the Union has endeavored to get the Tenth Regional Board to follow out the Order of Reference of the National Board which provided for an industry panel to hear our cases.

TO BE SURE HE'LL VOTE

Los Angeles, Calif.—Emid Kemp, California Sanitary Cannery member (right), gets registered for voting by Bob MacKay, Business Agent of Local 3. Picture was taken inside the cannery during lunch hour while Bro. MacKay was registering as many unregistered voters as possible, part of the CIO's Political Action campaign. Many Negro workers at union-shop Cal-San are registering for the first time, having come from the poll tax South within the last two or three years.

FIRED REYNOLDS WORKERS, NOW BACK ON JOB, ARE "EATING, SLEEPING, TALKING AND SINGING CIO"



FRANCES PAYLOR

DAISY C. JONES

WILLIAM H. MYERS

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Here are five of the 18 Reynolds workers who were put back to work following negotiations with the Company, telling in their own words how happy they are that at long last they have a say-so in conditions at Reynolds and can now fight arbitrary firings with the full force of the CIO behind them:

FRANCES PAYLOR: I want to thank the CIO for getting my job back for me. I know the CIO is worth being a member of. I was out of work for eight months, but I did not give up and I won't give up because I now know what a good Union means.

DAISY C. JONES: I wish to thank the Committee and the well-wishers of the CIO for their kindness toward me in getting my job back. I should like to say to the workers who are not members of this Union to please join and let us all stick together and make a strong organization.

If it had not been for the CIO I would have never been back at work at the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. I was fired from No. 256 Stemming Machine Dept. and am now working at No. 64 Stemmery. I'm really happy to say that after seven weeks out of work, I am back on the job at the same rate of pay and all of my seniority restored. Many thanks to our Union and the Grievance Committee.

WILLIAM H. MYERS: I appreciate the CIO putting me back to work again after being discharged for 30 days. Some of my fellow workers told me that I would never go to work for the Company again, but now I'm thankful to say that through the good old CIO, I am back at work again.

Any one who thinks and says that the CIO is not a worthwhile organization, just see me and I can convince you differently.

LULA WILSON: I want to thank one and all for the never-tiring efforts displayed in getting my job back for me. The only way I can really show our organization my appreciation is by continuing to rally for the CIO. I'm back at work now and eating, sleeping, talking and singing CIO.

JANIE HENTZ: I was a Shop Steward at No. 256 Wrapper Stemmery. My work was always satisfactory, but I was transferred from my regular job to a seasonal plant. When the season ended at the leaf department, I was out of work. I returned to the Employment Office several times but was not taken back for regular work. I had been out of work for about two months and thinking that I should seek employment elsewhere, when our Union started negotiations.

I've always had confidence in the CIO and they told me that the Committee was going to bat for me. As a result of such meetings with the Company, I'm now working in a much better department than I was discharged from. I'm a much harder worker for CIO than ever. I intend to always remain a member and continue to persuade others to join.

UNION MEN IN UNIFORM

CIO Campaigns For "GI Bill" And Mustering Out Pay Up To $4,500

Washington, D. C.—Full CIO support for the "GI Bill" (S 1767), measure to aid war veterans now before Congress, was expressed by Pres. Philip Murray in a letter to U. S. Senators. The bill passed the Senate several days later. At the same time, Murray supported the mustering-out pay bill sponsored by the major standard veterans organizations, and pending in the House.

Provisions in the "GI Bill" which now goes to the House, include:

- Educational aid, providing free tuition and allowances for training at accredited schools for one year, with a maximum of three years for a qualified veteran.
- Loans up to $1,000 for buying homes, farms and business properties.
- Increased hospital facilities, and guarding against discharge from hospitals before the veteran has had all his compensation put through the various technical processes, and giving veterans' organizations a place on review boards, etc.
- Unemployment compensation for eight weeks for each month a veteran was in the Armed Services, up to a maximum of 52 weeks of unemployment compensation.

The mustering out bill, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans and other organizations, provides for mustering out pay of $3.00 a day for home service, $4.00 for foreign service, plus $500 if wounded. It has a maximum of $3,500 for home service and $4,500 for foreign service, to be paid in non-negotiable, interest bearing bonds. As the News goes to press, the mustering out bill had not yet been voted upon in Congress.

THE SHELTON BOYS ARE CIO

Paul Shelton (left), the son of Crawford Shelton, co-Chairman of the Tobacco Workers' Organizing Committee in Winston-Salem, N. C., and J. Oscar Shelton (right), his nephew, took a lively part in the Reynolds organizing drive, managing several big distributions throughout the city of leaflets explaining the CIO program during the pre-election campaign last autumn. They will make good sailors in Uncle Sam's Navy.

TOBACCO DIVISION

U. S. Conciliator Aids "Camel" Negotiations

By Frank Hargrove, Int. Rep.

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Tentative agreement on seniority rights, grievance procedures, reporting time, and military severance pay has been reached between the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee, representing the 12,000 workers, and the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. here, makers of "Camels" and "Prince Albert" tobacco. The Union and the Company have had about ten meetings.

When negotiations did not go so well in the first meetings, the Union asked for a U. S. Conciliator to attend the sessions. Ordean Rockey sat in on the meetings and the Company then began to agree to a few of the Union suggestions.

SEEK BETTER VACATIONS

Progress is being made on hours of work and holidays, full seniority rights for seasonal workers. Under the present policy, the Company hesitates to give seasonal workers full time jobs when they are employed as seasonal workers. The Company has been waiting until the seasonal work was over and then hiring a few as regular employees if they were needed.

Although progress is being made on a number of points, the Union and the Company are still far apart on union security; wages; top seniority for Shop Stewards; leaves of absence for Union work; provision for a Union bulletin board; and the improved vacation plan.

UNION BACKS RED CROSS

Union members have taken time off from negotiations to help put the Red Cross drive over the top. The officials of Export Leaf Tobacco Co. cooperated with the Union in an excellent spirit to put the drive over.

The Reynolds Tobacco Company refused to work with the Union in collecting for the drive. In spite of this unpatriotic attitude, the Shop Stewards have been collecting from the Union members, and the CIO has made an important contribution to the Red Cross drive here.

12,000 Tobacco Workers Urge FDR 4th Term

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Reynolds workers' support for a fourth term for President Roosevelt and for an effective soldier vote bill were voiced here in letters to FDR and all North Carolina Representatives and Senators, from the Tobacco Workers' Organizing Committee.

The message to Roosevelt not only told him that the Union, representing 12,000 workers, went on record urging him to run for a fourth term and pledging their full support, but told him some of the things the members said during the discussion on the motion, such as:

"No one can take his place with a better 'win-the-war' policy."

One member who has a son in service proudly took the floor and read excerpts from a letter she had received from her son in which he stated: "If I get a vote, I know who I'm going to vote for—Franklin D. Roosevelt. You see, he is my Commander-in-Chief."

ACT FOR SOLDIER VOTE

Representatives were told in a letter signed by Robert Black and Crawford Shelton, co-chairmen of the TWOC, that the Reynolds membership had denounced the Compromise Soldier Vote Bill, and urged support for a federal ballot, since "it was the strong belief of the entire membership that the soldiers, sailors and marines—the men and women who are carrying the load of winning the war, should in no way be deprived of their rights as American citizens—the right to cast their ballot in the 1944 election."

Ask Troops Get Full Labor News

Washington, D. C. (FP)—Evasions and half-truths were laid to the U. S. War Department March 25 in a joint statement issued by the CIO and AFL following a War Department statement that army publications are giving troops a full, fair and accurate picture of the wartime achievements of U. S. labor.

"Representatives of the AFL and the CIO suggested to Under-Secy. of War Robert P. Patterson at a recent conference that if American troops are actually misinformed, the War Dept. owes a responsibility to give them the full truth," the CIO-AFL release stated.

ARMY SHOULD TELL FACTS

"We recommended several ways in which this responsibility could be effectively carried out. One way would be for the Army to state the facts on war production officially to servicemen in a manner similar to the recent Truman report.

"Labor's complaint was that in news the soldiers have been receiving, stories about strikes have been over-emphasized out of all proportion and that the constructive achievements of the war production program and labor's contribution thereto have been for the most part subordinated . . ." said the labor statement.

No Joining Fees From Veterans

Washington, D.C. (FP)—Admission of all men and women in the armed services to all CIO affiliated unions without payment of initiation fees was advocated March 28 by CIO Pres. Philip Murray in a letter to national and international unions.

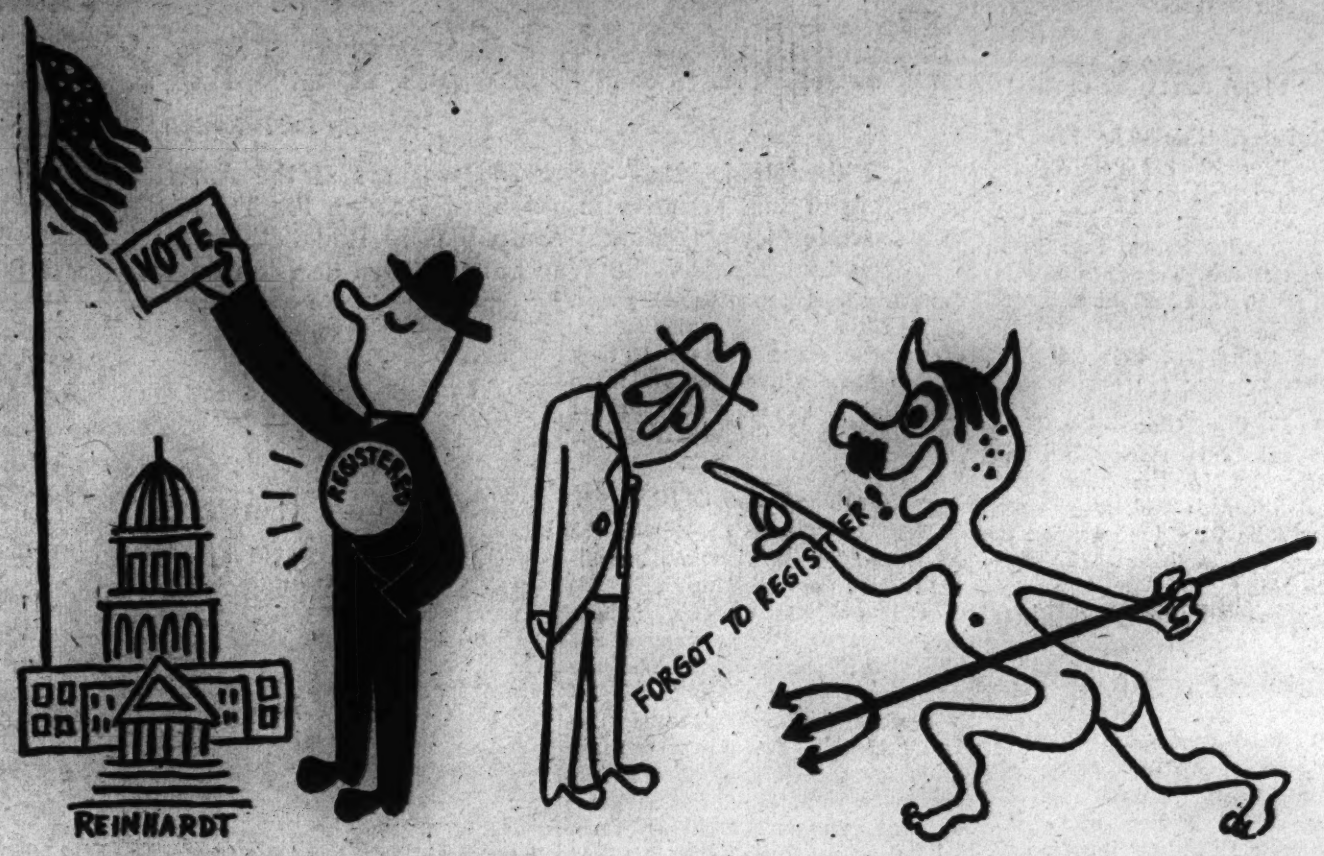
Although union members joining the armed services are not required to pay initiation fees upon their discharge, Pres. Murray's letter calls for opening the doors to men and women who were not previously union members.

GI'S IN GOOD STANDING

The letter said: "The CIO and its affiliated unions have consistently endeavored to take all possible steps in the interest and for the protection of the men and women of the armed forces. With this objective we have fought to protect the cumulative senority rights of men and women who leave any of the plants which we have covered with collective bargaining agreements so that upon their honorable discharge from the services they can return on the basis of such seniority. In addition, our unions have exonerated all of their members who have left for the armed forces from the payment of dues while in service. This means that they have been kept in good standing in their respective unions."

Every Worker A Voter

Here are sections from the CIO Political Action Committee's pamphlet which explains our Register-to-Vote Campaign.



All Our Tomorrows

It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of the 1944 elections. These issues are at stake:

How quickly and completely will we beat the Axis?

Will all of us have jobs after the war or will we set the stage for something even worse than 1929 when millions were thrown onto the breadlines or reduced to selling apples on street corners?

Will the rights of labor be protected or will our trade unions be smashed?

Will we increase our social security to protect the sick, the aged, the fatherless, and the unemployed or go back to the Hoover days when government relief to the unemployed was denounced as unAmerican?

Will we open the gates of opportunity to the children of all our citizens or just to a favored few?

Will we keep the cost of living under control or will it go soaring out of sight?

Will we set up controls over greed and international cartels or will we allow them to multiply like maggots?

Will we establish peace for many generations to come or will we start right away to create the conditions of World War III within our time?

How these issues will be decided will depend on the kind of government we elect for the next four crucial years. And the kind of government we elect will depend on how we vote—and how many of us vote.

All our tomorrows depend on what we do in the elections.

The Government—That's Us

We are American citizens. That means we have the right to elect the people who run our government. That right makes all the difference between democracy in America and fascism in Germany.

But that right is not worth anything unless we use it.

What would you do if someone came along and told you that you would not be allowed to vote in the next elections? We know what you would do: You would fight for your right to vote.

The one sure way to defeat the enemies of the people is for the people—all the people—to vote.

Votes are the weapons of democracy. Unless you register you are as useless as a soldier without a gun.

These Facts Aren't Pretty

The people are always right—when they vote.

A big vote is always a good vote. When everybody votes we get a good government—Federal, State, or local.

When a man votes with full understanding of the issues—he votes for his own and his nation's best interests. When he stays away from the polls he really votes against his own and his nation's best interests.

If you need any proof, here are the sad facts:

More than 80,000,000 citizens today have the right to vote.

In 1940 about 50,000,000 people voted. Though this was still 30,000,000 short of a full turnout, the results of the elections were pretty good.

But in 1942 only 28,000,000 people voted. Only one out of every three eligible voters cast their ballots. Now we all know what happened. We elected the kind of Congress that we have—a Congress which refuses to back the President and his program in the interest of the people, a Congress which votes against labor, against taxes according to ability to pay, against food subsidies and real price controls, against a home-front program to win the war swifty and effectively. Such a Congress cannot be entrusted with writing the peace or assuring jobs and security in the post-war period.

It is certain as day follows night that if 50,000,000 had voted in 1942 as they did in 1940, we would have a different Congress in Washington today.

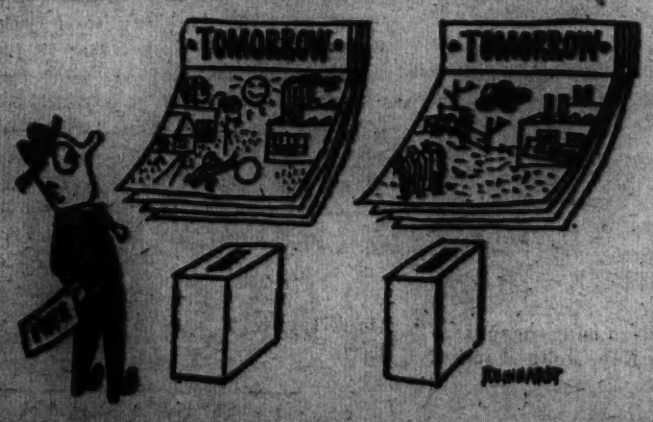
What will happen in 1944?

You can supply the answer with your votes. But before you can do that, you must register.

An Unregistered Worker Is an Unorganized Voter

You know what you have gone through to get our unions organized. You had to fight every inch of the way. Day and night, you talked union to the workers in your shop and at their homes. Some of you were fired when you were spotted as union organizers. When strikes were forced upon us, you sweated in the heat and froze in the cold on the picket line. Some of you had your heads cracked by the police and the hoodlum finks. Only the few dollars of strike relief kept your wives and hungry kids from starving. In this hard way you built our unions.

But if we fail to elect a progressive government in 1944, all we fought for, sacrificed for, built up painfully brick by brick, will be swept away as if by a tornado. It happened before, you know. It happened after the last war. It is up to us that it shall not happen again.



Why Voters Must Register

To be able to vote, of course.

But why do we have a registration of voters?

The registration is used by states and cities to record the names of those who are eligible to vote so that they can check those names out on election day. The idea of registration is very good.

But, unfortunately, there is no uniform rule or way to get registered. Different cities and states have different rules. If you are going to register and help others get registered, find out immediately what the registration rules are in your state, who can register, where and when registration takes place, and how often voters must register. You can get these rules from your City Clerk, or the Office of the Registrar of Voters in the City Hall or from the CIO Political Action Committee, 205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y.

Before you start doing anything for other workers, get registered yourself and find out as many of the rules about registration in your community as you can so that you will be able to answer questions later.

To Begin With—

Now you are ready, we hope, to help some of your fellow workers to get registered.

Where and how do you begin?

The simple answer is: You begin at the beginning. No, not with Adam and Eve, but with the formation of a Registration Committee in your own shop or plant and with the formation of community political councils. In another pamphlet we shall deal with the community activities. Here we shall deal only with the plant Registration Committees.

Before you do that, think for a moment about this: What makes a political machine click? Every state and every big city has its political machine. What accounts for their success?

It is their experience in organizing voters for their candidates.

The very first thing they realize is that if they are to get votes lined up for their machine-candidates, they must get voters to register. They don't depend on luck. They do it the hard way. They get out and work hard to get people registered.

The registration of workers will not get done by itself. We will have to do it. We will have to do it in an orderly way. We must have a clear method to follow. We cannot make any fixed rules because different methods will have to be used in different states. But all can organize along the following suggested lines:

Step 1 ESTABLISH A REGISTRATION COMMITTEE IN YOUR PLANT. Many plants have used their shop stewards as the Registration Committee. Some plants decided to use other workers who are not already burdened. Use your judgment. But keep in mind that to carry the registration drive to the worker on the job, registration representatives should function in every department on every shift in the plant.

Step 2 SECURE COMPLETE MEMBERSHIP LISTS WITH CORRECT ADDRESSES. Your list of the workers in your plant will become the basis of all operations in this drive. It is, therefore, most important that the list should be complete and correct.

Step 3 TYPE, MIMEOGRAPH OR PRINT THREE FILE CARDS FOR EACH MEMBER. *(Your local Political Action Committee may furnish you with these cards.)* These cards should give:

Name _____

Address _____

Ward _____ Precinct _____ Local _____

Registered _____ Not Registered _____

Remarks _____

Step 4 CHECK YOUR SET OF CARDS AGAINST REGISTRATION ROLLS AT ELECTION BOARD. Some county election officials sell registration lists. Others distribute them upon request. In some places, rolls can be checked only at the election office where they are kept. As soon as your file is complete, check all cards against the registration rolls, because you cannot always rely on a voter's statement that he is registered. Sometimes he may think he is—when in fact he isn't. Separate the non-registered cards from the others.

Step 5 KEEP ONE CARD IN YOUR LOCAL UNION REGISTRATION COMMITTEE FILE. SEND TWO COPIES TO THE COUNTY, CITY OR OTHER LABOR POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE FOR THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THE MEMBER LIVES. The job of the community Political Action Committee will be to create a master file broken down by wards and precincts as a basis for community political organization. One set of your cards will go into that master file. The other set will be needed for the canvassers.

Step 6 DISTRIBUTE THE NON-REGISTERED CARDS TO MEMBERS OF YOUR PLANT COMMITTEE FOR ACTION. Call a meeting of your plant Registration Committee. Decide how to divide up the task of reaching the non-registered workers. Decide whether you want to mimeograph a slip to be handed to the non-registered workers which would inform them that they are not registered and tell them exactly how they can get registered.

Step 7 CONTACT EACH NON-REGISTERED WORKER BY PERSONAL INTERVIEW. Contact each non-registered worker and tell him how, when, where and why he should register. Follow up the contact and find out whether he has registered. Upon his registration, note the information on his card. After all the non-registered workers have been canvassed, forward the names of the non-registered voters to the city, county, or other Political Action Committee.

Step 8 MAKE REGISTRATION CONVENIENT. Some unions have obtained registration booths in their plants or at local union meetings. Some union members have been deputized as registrars. Other unions have held special meetings at which registration was the main item of business. Where registration is required at some central point, such as the County Clerk's office, some unions have organized automobile parties to provide group transportation to the registration place.

Step 9 CHANGE-OF-ADDRESS CARDS IN PERMANENT REGISTRATION AREAS. In some States they provide for permanent registration, but require the filing of change-of-address cards. If you are in such a state, obtain a supply of these cards from the election commissioners, distribute them in your shop and take care of delivering the signed cards to the proper authorities.

Step 10 MAKE REGISTRATION POPULAR. Popularize the idea of registration in your shop in every possible way. Prepare posters. Prepare local leaflets. Make registration a part of the regular order of business of each shop and local meeting. Wear "I have registered" buttons and ask others who do not wear them whether they have registered as yet, and if not, ask them not to delay it.

Sample copies of the full pamphlet, "Every Worker a Voter," have been sent by Pres. Henderson to every Local Union President, together with instructions of how to get free copies for each Shop Steward and Local Union Officer. Should your Local want copies for all the members, order them direct from the CIO Political Action Committee, 205 East 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y., at 3c per copy.

TOBACCO DIVISION

Notes from LOCALS

New Officers

69 Lima, Ohio—The 1944 officers elected by DWG Local 69 are: Nell Fox, Pres.; Ruby Mann, Vice-Pres.; Naomi Tchantz, Fin. Secy.; Sue Sousz, Rec. Secy.; Fred Lawrence, Treas.; and Minnie Duckro, Chief Plant Steward.

Will Give Blood

72 Findlay, Ohio — DWG Local 72 is cooperating with management in the Red Cross Drive. A Blood Bank mobile unit unit will be here in May for the employees who have offered to donate blood.

By Arthelma Wilson, Press Agent

Leaders For '44

73 St. Marys, Ohio—The following officers were elected for 1944 by DWG Local 73: Thelma Miller, Pres.; Lillian Hall, Vice-Pres.; Elizabeth Bushong, Fin. Secy.-Treas.; Helen Linninger, Rec. Secy.; Flossie Mills, Chief Stewardess; Rosanna Kieber, Machine Room Stewardess (right); Minnie Kohlriser, Machine Room Stewardess (left); Thelma Miller, Packing Room Stewardess; Dorothy Blakley and Effie Fleddirjohn, Night Stewardesses; Pearl Shippman, Cordelia McDermitt and Ocie Webb, Trustees; Helen Adams, Fore Guard; and Lillian Hall, Press Agent.

Raises—And Back Pay

281 Detroit, Mich.—Good news from Webster Local 281 includes the recent raise of the day-rate girls to 50c an hour, with back pay from January 24.

The Red Cross Drive was a big [illegible] given by

We are also glad to hear and see that Pres. Helen Marcel of R. G. Dunn Local 58 is back on the job, through the strength of UCAPAWA. That's how unity wins out in our locals.

By Olga Goetsch, Press Agent

The Slogan Is "Unity" At American Tobacco

By Paul Gardner, TWOC Chairman

Philadelphia, Pa.—Some 750 workers at the American Tobacco Company's cigar plant here are learning the meaning of real democratic unionism through the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee, which is putting on one of the snappiest organizational campaigns in Philadelphia.

It took a miserable War Labor Board decision on wages, after the girls had lived on promises of the Company for many weeks, months and years, to turn the tide for unionization. The workers knew then that they had to have a live-wire Union to represent them to really do the job right, and UCAPAWA was the Union to do the job.

REQUEST ELECTION

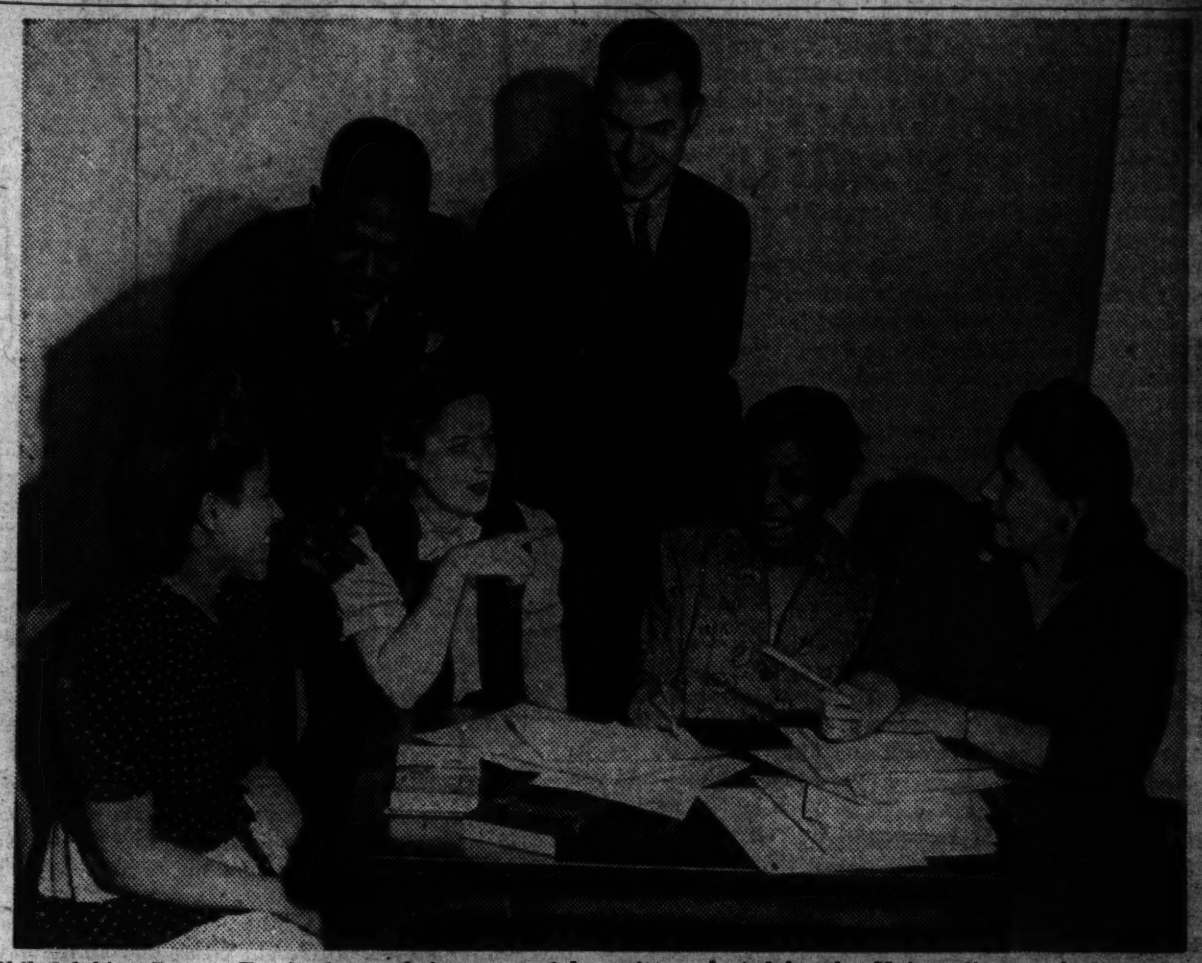
The Union has petitioned the NLRB for an election and has already had one meeting with the NLRB and the Company where the bargaining unit was agreed upon with the exception of the Company's objection to the inclusion of sweepers and matrons. The Union is going to fight to the last ditch for the right of these workers to be included in the bargaining unit, and it is almost certain that the NLRB will rule in their favor.

Leading the parade into UCAPAWA was a committee of some 18 to 20 workers. Already the first floor of the plant is just about 100% CIO; real progress has also been made in the basement, which is fast becoming 100% also. On the second floor, the workers have been propagandized against the Union with false stories that the CIO will discriminate against the colored workers. This propaganda was nailed in a special leaflet distributed at the plant and by the voices of the workers at the meetings as nothing but idle gossip, lies and rumors. Since then the second floor workers are beginning to sign up with the Union.

WANT GOOD CONTRACT

Already some 212 workers have paid initiation fees into the Union. This clearly shows the workers mean business. Their slogan is Unity of Effort and Action. A good contract for all workers. No discrimination.

Assisting the organizational work are Int. Rep. Paul Gardner; Field Reps. John Tomlin and Joe Shaeffer; and Int. Secy.-Treas. Harold J. Lane.



Philadelphia, Pa. — Fresh from their successful hearing at the National Labor Relations Board, (left to right): Mary Fisher, Sally Dreyer, Millie Perkins and Mary Turner, American Tobacco committee elected by the Union, discuss election prospects, with Field Rep. John Tomlin (standing, left) and Int. Rep. Paul Gardner, Chairman of the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee.

Amer. Tobacco Workers Welcomed To UCAPAWA

Hightstown, N. J.—The South Jersey-Eastern Pennsylvania Organizing Committee, meeting here on March 26, went on record welcoming the new members from the American Tobacco Co. into UCAPAWA. It was pointed out that UCAPAWA already has four cigar plants under contract in this area: Siegel and Frieder in Camden, and Consolidated plants in Lancaster and Camden.

By bringing all other plants into UCAPAWA, the Committee declared, a greater unity of cigar workers can be achieved, and greater gains can be made to put an end to the low wages and poor conditions of these workers.

Join AFL And Get a Cup Cake

Philadelphia, Pa. — Some of the American Tobacco workers may have noticed lately that the AFL is trying to horn into the organizing drive. The most recent news about them is that they are not even part of the AFL tobacco union, but some outfit from Louisville, Ky. They have no offices, phone or address, and unless they can at least show themselves to be more than thin air, even the NLRB is ready to throw them overboard.

The biggest laugh was when the AFL called a meeting and brought along four dozen cup cakes. The story now is to "join the AFL and get a cup cake."

This is about like the dog race, where the dogs chase the phony rabbit and get nothing out of it except out of breath, says Int. Rep. Paul Gardner.

WLB OK's Lorillard 2 Week's Vacation

Middletown, Ohio—Vacations of one week for those with one year's service and of two weeks for five or more years' service, negotiated in the recent Local 55 contract at P. Lorillard tobacco plant here, have been approved by the Regional War Labor Board. Should layoffs shorten an employee's service, he will receive the proportionate amount of vacation corresponding to the time worked, according to Int. Vice-Pres. Robert Clark. Previously, one week was the maximum vacation.

Reporting on progress in the Local, Press Agent Jennie Stiver tells of the membership drive, with Leola Hunt winning the prize of $3 for signing up most members. Excitement is high in town, says Sister Stiver, over the CIO drive at the Armco steel plant, with a phony "so-called Association" trying to spread lies against CIO.

"I'M STICKING TO THE UNION," SING AMERICAN TOBACCO GIRLS

Philadelphia, Pa.—"There once was a Union maid, who never was afraid," sing these American Tobacco workers at a rousing organizational meeting held by UCAPAWA's Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee. The lusty singing was led by Field Rep. John Tomlin.